

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



Abstract

Here is my current analysis of book definitions in Paratext. I have looked at what we have, how that can be improved, and I have added my summary of new books required for Paratext 7 with my proposed 3 letter codes for them. There are many books that need to be added to Paratext. It is important that these issues are addressed before Paratext 7 is implemented.

Part 1

This paper first of all analyses the books that are already defined in Paratext. It looks at books in Paratext and draws conclusions.

Part 2

Then it recommends some changes for:

- books to delete which can be dealt with another way;
- Duplicate book to remove;
- Books to rename.

Part 3

Then the paper looks at books to add to Paratext. Books need to be added are for the following traditions:

- Ethiopian
- Armenian
- Syriac
- Latin Vulgate
- New Testament codices.

Part 4

Then the paper looks at other changes recommended for Paratext relating to:

- Help
- Book order
- Book abbreviations

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



Part 1: Analysis of the current codes in Paratext

1.1 Notes on the Paratext Old Testament Books 01-39

1.1.1 Old Testament books

Paratext books 01-39 are for the Old Testament books in the Western Protestant order and based on the names in the English tradition. Here are some notes on problems that have arisen in some Paratext projects for the Old Testament:

1.1.2 Esther (EST)

In Catholic and Orthodox Bibles Esther is translated from the longer Septuagint and not the shorter Hebrew book. The code ESG for Esther Greek exists, but nonetheless some projects have used code EST for Greek Esther. Paratext Help does not explicitly state that EST is for Hebrew Esther.

1.1.3 Ezra (EZR)

In the Septuagint and in the Syriac traditions, Ezra-Nehemiah is one book called “1 Esdras” and in project LXX Ezra-Nehemiah is one book under code 1ES, (when it should have been EZR). Paratext Help does not state that EZR can be used for Ezra-Nehemiah when it is one book.

1.1.4 Daniel (DAN)

In some Bibles Daniel is translated from the longer Septuagint and not the shorter Hebrew book. In these cases (e.g. in AMHLXX) the code DAN is often used for the LXX Daniel. Paratext Help does not explicitly state that DAN is for Hebrew Daniel.

1.1.5 Old Testament book order

Paratext 6 has a drop down list for these books which lists them in the order they appear in Paratext, even though in some Bibles the books are in a different order. For example the Jewish Tanakh orders the same books differently and some Christian Bibles e.g. the French “Traduction Œcuménique de la Bible” print the Old Testament in Tanakh order.

In Bible Society of Ethiopia Bibles the Minor Prophets of the Old Testament are printed in a different order in the Ethiopian Protestant Bible and in the Ethiopian Orthodox Bible. In the UBS edition of the West Syriac Bible the book of Job appears after Deuteronomy.

Paratext enforces the Western Protestant book order, but it should not be assumed that all Old Testaments follow the order of the Western Protestant tradition.

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



1.2 Notes on the Paratext New Testament Books 41-67

1.2.1 New Testament books

Paratext books 41-67 are for the 27 New Testament books in the Western Protestant order and based on the names in the English Protestant tradition.

No	TLA	Details in Paratext Help	Notes
41	MAT	Matthew	
42	MRK	Mark	
43	LUK	Luke	
44	JHN	John	
45	ACT	Acts	
46	ROM	Romans	
47	1CO	1 Corinthians	
48	2CO	2 Corinthians	
49	GAL	Galatians	
50	EPH	Ephesians	
51	PHP	Philippians	
52	COL	Colossians	
53	1TH	1 Thessalonians	
54	2TH	2 Thessalonians	
55	1TI	1 Timothy	
56	2Ti	2 Timothy	
57	TIT	Titus	
58	PHM	Philemon	
59	HEB	Hebrews	
60	JAS	James	
61	1PE	1 Peter	
62	2PE	2 Peter	
63	1JN	1 John	
64	2JN	2 John	
65	3JN	3 John	
66	JUD	Jude	JUD is ambiguous with Judges and Judith
67	REV	Revelation	Called "Apocalypse" in Catholic Bibles

1.2.2 Paratext Help for NT book codes

There is almost no help in Paratext for the New Testament abbreviations. It just lists the three letter codes followed by the name of the book in English. In most cases the three letters are the first three letters or the book name in English Protestant Bibles.

1.2.2.1 Jude (JUD)

Although most of them are unambiguous it should be noted that JUD is short for "Jude" and not "Judges" or "Judith", which it feasibly could equally be an abbreviation for.

1.2.2.2 Revelation (REV)

In Catholic Bibles the book of Revelation is called the Apocalypse (of St John).

1.2.3 Deuterocanonical New Testament Books

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



The Minor Catholic Epistles (2 Peter, 2 and 3 John and Jude) and Revelation are regarded as New Testament deuterocanonical books in the Syriac traditions. Today the Churches of the East Syriac tradition only have the 22 book New Testament in their lectionary and liturgical traditions, and the Churches of the West Syriac tradition omit the Apocalypse of John from their liturgy.

1.2.4 New Testament book order

Paratext 6 has a drop down list for these books which lists them in the order they appear in Paratext, even though in some Bibles the books are in a different order. For example the Lutheran, Russian and Ethiopian Bibles order the New Testament differently.

Paratext enforces the Greek and Catholic New Testament book order, which was used by the Anglican and English world, but it should not be assumed that all New Testaments follow the order of the Western Protestant tradition.

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



1.3 Notes on the Paratext Catholic Deuterocanonical Books 68-79

No	TLA	Book name	Notes
68	TOB	Tobit	Also called Tobias
69	JDT	Judith	
70	ESG	Esther Greek	Sometimes EST has been used for Greek Esther
71	WIS	Wisdom (of Solomon)	
72	SIR	Sirach (Ecclesiasticus)	
73	BAR	Baruch	Baruch can be 5 or 6 chapters long It is called "1 Baruch" in the Syriac tradition
74	LJE	Letter of Jeremiah	Sometimes chapter 6 of Baruch
75	S3Y	Prayer of Azariah and the Song of the 3 Young Men	These 3 books are sometimes separate and sometimes combined as "Additions to Daniel", in which case they should be in the proposed DAG book.
76	SUS	Susanna	
77	BEL	Bel and the Dragon	
78	1MA	1 Maccabees	
79	2MA	2 Maccabees	

1.3.1 Catholic Deuterocanon

These books 68-79 are those of the Roman Catholic Deuterocanon in Latin Vulgate order, as set out by the Catholic Council of Trent in 1546. Sometimes these books are in the Catholic Deuterocanon in the Septuagint order when 1 & 2 Maccabees appear after Esther. The Vulgate order is that used when the Anglican Apocrypha is printed which adds the books 1 Esdras and 2 Esdras to the start of this list.

1.3.2 Baruch and Letter of Jeremiah

The book of Baruch is 5 chapters long and the Letter of Jeremiah is one chapter long. These are separate books in the Lutheran and Anglican Apocrypha traditions and in Orthodox Bibles. But in the Latin Vulgate the Letter of Jeremiah was appended to the book of Baruch as chapter 6.

1.3.3 The Apocrypha

The same set of books does not appear in different Protestant Apocryphas. There is no such thing as a "standard" Protestant Apocrypha. What is regarded as the "Apocrypha" in the English-speaking world is the Anglican (Church of England) Apocrypha of the Authorized (King James) Bible. What is regarded as the standard Apocrypha in the German-speaking world is the Lutheran Apocrypha which does not include 1 & 2 Esdras.

Nor does the Catholic Deuterocanon always appear in the same order.

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



Interconfessional / Apocryphal books

	Anglican Apocrypha	Lutheran Apocrypha	Catholic Deuterocanon Septuagint order	Catholic Deuterocanon Vulgate order
1	1 Esdras	Judith	Tobit	Tobit
2	2 Esdras	Wisdom	Judith	Judith
3	Tobit	Tobit	Greek Esther	Greek Esther
4	Judith	Sirach	1 Maccabees	Wisdom
5	Greek Esther	Baruch (6 chapters)	2 Maccabees	Sirach
6	Wisdom of Solomon	1 Maccabees	Wisdom	Baruch (6 chapters)
7	Sirach	2 Maccabees	Sirach	Susanna
8	Baruch (5 chapters)	Greek Esther	Baruch (6 chapters)	Song of the 3 Young
9	Letter of Jeremiah	Susanna	Susanna	Bel & the Dragon
10	Song of the 3 Young	Bel and the Dragon	Song of the 3 Young	1 Maccabees
11	Susana	Song of the 3 Young	Bel & the Dragon	2 Maccabees
12	Bel and the Dragon	Prayer of Manasseh		
13	Prayer of Manasseh			
14	1 Maccabees			
15	2 Maccabees			

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



1.4 Notes on the Paratext Deuterocanonical Books 80-85

1.4.1 Eastern Orthodox books

The books 80-85 are those books which form part of the Anglican Apocrypha and Eastern Orthodox (e.g. Greek, Russian and Georgian) Bibles which are not in the Catholic Deuterocanon. Different combinations of these are in different Orthodox Bibles.

No	TLA	English book name ¹	Chapters	Notes
80	3MA	3 Maccabees	7	Part of Eastern Orthodox and Armenian Bibles
81	4MA	4 Maccabees	18	Part of the Georgian Bible and the Greek Appendix
82	1ES	1 Esdras (Greek Ezra)	9	The name 1 Esdras reflects its use in the KJV Apocrypha but is very confusing in projects where 1 Esdras is the name given to Hebrew Ezra.
83	2ES	2 Esdras (Latin Esdras)	16	The name 2 Esdras reflects its use in the KJV Apocrypha but is very confusing in projects where 2 Esdras is the name given to Nehemiah.
84	MAN	Prayer of Manasseh	1	Part of Odes, part of 2 Chronicles in the Ethiopian Orthodox Bible
85	PS2	Psalms 151	1	The 151 st Psalm that is in the LXX, included in Orthodox Bibles translated from the Septuagint

1.4.3 3 Maccabees (3MA)

The book actually has nothing to do with the Maccabees. 3 Maccabees was part of some editions of the Septuagint and is included in the Greek Orthodox, Russian Orthodox, Georgian Orthodox and Armenian Orthodox Bibles.

1.4.4 4 Maccabees (4MA)

The only Bible where 4 Maccabees is part of the Old Testament is the Georgian Orthodox Bible. It appears as an Appendix to the Old Testament of the Greek Orthodox Bible. It does not appear in any other Bibles, but it is included in the NRSV Interconfessional edition, and other Bibles which follow its example.

1.4.5 1 Esdras (1ES)

1 Esdras (1ES) is the name of the 9-chapter book of Greek Ezra when it appears in the Anglican Apocrypha, but it is not in the Lutheran Apocrypha. It is also in many Orthodox Bibles where it has

¹ Names in the KJV Anglican Apocrypha, and in the NRSV deuterocanonical section

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



different names. In the Russian and Ethiopian Bibles it is called “2 Esdras”. It is in the Appendix to the Clementine Vulgate where it is called “3 Esdras”.

The name “1 Esdras” is very confusing because in the Vulgate and the Romanian Orthodox Bible the book of Ezra is called “1 Esdras”. The Paratext code 1ES needs to be used to reflect the content of the book of Greek Ezra and not necessarily books called “1 Esdras”.

1.4.6 2 Esdras (2ES)

2 Esdras (2ES) is the of the 16-chapter book of Latin Esdras when it appears in the Anglican Apocrypha, but it is not in the Lutheran Apocrypha. It is also in the Russian and Georgian orthodox Bibles where it is called “3 Esdras”, but it is not part of other Orthodox traditions. It is in the Appendix to the Clementine Vulgate where it is called “4 Esdras”.

The name “2 Esdras” is very confusing because in the Vulgate and the Romanian Orthodox Bible the book of Nehemiah is called “2 Esdras”. The Paratext code 2ES needs to be used to reflect the content of the book of Greek Ezra and not necessarily books called “2 Esdras” e.g. the code “2ES” was wrongly used for “Ezra-Nehemiah” in the project LXX in Paratext which is called “2 Esdras”.

It has sometimes been wrongly used for the 12-chapter “Ezra Apocalypse” which is part of the Armenian, Syriac and Ethiopian traditions, which has code “4ES” in Paratext.

1.4.7 Prayer of Manasseh (MAN)

The Prayer of Manasseh is a single chapter book of 15 verses that purports to be the penitential prayer of King Manasseh of Judah, who is recorded in the Bible as idolatrous (2 Kings 21:1-18). However, after having been taken captive by the Assyrians, he prays for mercy (2 Chronicles 33:10-17) and turns from his idolatrous ways.

The Prayer of Manasseh is included in certain editions of the Greek Septuagint such as the Codex Alexandrinus which includes the prayer among fourteen Odes appearing just after the Psalms.

It was printed after 2 Chronicles in the 1599 English Calvinist Geneva Bible and is included with 2 Chronicles in the Ethiopian Orthodox Bible. It is part of the Romanian Orthodox and Georgian Orthodox Bibles, and it is included in the Anglican and Lutheran Apocryphas. It is in the Appendix to the Clementine Vulgate and in Paratext project VUL83.

1.4.8 Psalm 151 (PS2)

Psalm 151 is a 7 verse psalm that is part of the Septuagint Psalter, where the title states that: *“This Psalm is ascribed to David and is outside the number. When he slew Goliath in single combat.”* Evidence of the Hebrew origin of Psalm 151 has been found in the Dead Sea Scrolls at Qumran in scroll 11QPs(a). Orthodox Psalters have 151 psalms, but in interconfessional editions of the Bible such as the NRSV, Psalm 151 appears as a “book” as part of deuterocanonical sections. In this case is called “PS2” in Paratext, and is in the Appendix to the Stuttgart Sacra Vulgata and in Paratext project VUL83. This does not take into account Syriac Bibles which also have Psalms 151-155.

1.4.2 NRSV Interconfessional editions

All these books 80-85 are printed in the English language Deuterocanonical book sections in the RSV and NRSV Interconfessional editions.

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



1.5 Notes on the Paratext Books 86-107 for the LXX Project

The following books were added for the Paratext Septuagint project.
As far as I know they are only in the Paratext project LXX:

No	TLA	Book name	Source	Notes
86	ODA	Odae/ Odes	Rahlf's LXX	Odes are different in different traditions → The abbreviation ODE would have been better?
87	PSS	Psalms of Solomon	Rahlf's LXX	Not printed in any canonical tradition, but in some Syriac and LXX manuscripts.
88	JSA	Joshua "A"	Codex Alexandrinus	Variants of books in the LXX from codices, used as secondary variants.
89	JDB	Judges "B"	Codex Vaticanus	
90	TBS	Tobit "S"	Codes Sinaiticus	
91	SST	Susannah "Th"	Theodotion	Version of Daniel from Theodotion, used a primary source as it is closer to the Masoretic Daniel
92	DNT	Daniel "The"	Theodotion	
93	BLT	Bel & the Dragon "Th"	Theodotion	

1.5.1 Odes

The Book of Odes in Paratext project LXX has 14 Odes, but there are different versions of Odes in different traditions. Most Paratext book codes reflect the English name of the book. Here the name "ODA" comes from a transliteration of the Greek i.e. "Odae". The English name is "Odes" and I think it should be renamed "ODE".

1.5.2 Books 88-90

The codes for books 88-90 are redundant. They reflect alternative versions of books in the LXX and should be part of a LXX "B" project with these books under the normal codes for their books.

1.5.3 Books 91-93

The codes for books 91-93 are redundant. They reflect primary versions of books in the LXX and should be part of a LXX "A" project with these books under the normal codes for their books. Other versions of these books are under LXX "B".

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



1.6 Notes on the Paratext Books 86-107 for Esdras Book

The following books were added for Esdras Books:

No	TLA	Book name	Chapters	Notes
104	3ES	3 Esdras	16	Remove as redundant, was entered for Russian 3 Esdras which is in fact the book "2ES". → Duplicate of "2ES"
105	4ES	4 Esdras	12	Ambiguous name. This name is very confusing. "4 Esdras" is the name for the 12 chapter Apocalypse of Ezra, or also the 16 chapter book of Latin Esdras which is called 2 Esdras in the KJV.
106	5ES	5 Esdras	2	Ambiguous name. 2 chapter Latin preface to the Apocalypse of Ezra known to scholars as 5 Ezra
107	6ES	6 Esdras	2	Ambiguous name. 2 chapter Latin addition to the Apocalypse of Ezra known to scholars as 6 Ezra

1.6.1 The three Sections of Latin Esdras

4, 5 & 6 Esdras are for the constituent parts that make up the 16 chapter book of Latin Esdras (2ES in Paratext), known as 4 Ezra, 5 Ezra and 6 Ezra by the Society of Biblical Literature.

1.6.2 Apocalypse of Ezra

The 12 chapter Apocalypse of Ezra is part of Syriac, Armenian, Georgian and Ethiopian tradition. Calling it 4 Esdras is confusing, and it would be better called the "Ezra Apocalypse".

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



1.7 Books in Paratext whose names are ambiguous

1.7.1 Ambiguous book codes used

In Paratext there have been cases of the wrong code having been used for books. This has not caused a problem for the projects themselves, but it does mean that the mapping across books which is a feature of Paratext, does not work properly. One reason for wrong codes being used is ambiguous names of books.

Paratext code	Book	Notes
EST	Esther	Has been used for Greek Esther, where the Bible Society did not realise that there was a code for Greek Esther. → The help for this book needs to specify that it is for Hebrew Esther and that ESG exists for LXX Esther.
DAN	Daniel	Has been used for Greek Daniel, where the Bible Society has not been able to find a code for Greek Daniel. → The help for this book needs to specify that it is for Hebrew Daniel. → We need to add a code for LXX Daniel.
1ES	1 Esdras	This was used in the LXX project for Ezra-Nehemiah which is called 1 Esdras in Greek. → The help needs to make clear that 1 Esdras refers to the paraphrase book of Greek Esdras, called 1 Esdras in KJV, which may be called 2 Esdras or 3 Esdras in other traditions.
2ES	2 Esdras	This was used in the ZRB Zohrab project the 12 chapter Ezra-Apocalypse, which currently has code 4ES. → The help needs to make clear that 2 Esdras refers to the 16 chapter book of Latin Esdras, called 2 Esdras in KJV, and 4 Esdras in the Vulgate, which may be called 3 Esdras in other traditions.
3ES	3 Esdras	This has been used in Russian Orthodox projects where 3 Esdras is the name of the book of Latin Esdras, which is called 2 Esdras in the KJV. → In fact this code is redundant and needs to be removed.
4ES	4 Esdras	“4 Esdras” can refer to the historic 12 chapter Ezra Apocalypse used in the Armenian, Syriac and Ethiopian traditions, or it can refer to the 16 chapter book of Esdras called IV Esdras in the Latin Vulgate which has code 2ES in Paratext. → To avoid the ambiguity it would be better to rename 4ES to clearly be the Ezra Apocalypse.

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



1.8 Conclusions on books currently defined in Paratext

1.8.1 Blocks

Currently the books of Paratext are listed as :

- 1-39: Tanakh/ Protestant Old Testament books
- 41-67: New Testament books
- 68-85: Anglican Apocrypha, and Catholic & Eastern Orthodox Deuterocanonical books
- 86-93: additional books and variants in Septuagint manuscripts
- 104-107: Latin Esdras books

1.8.2 Naming conventions

1.8.2.1 English language names are used

In most cases the three letter abbreviation names of the books in Paratext are taken from the traditional English language names used by almost all English Bibles, e.g. GEN short for Genesis.

1.8.2.2 Protestant names are used

These names are the Protestant rather than Catholic names so that REV is short for Revelation not Apocalypse common in Catholic Bibles, and SIR is short for Sirach and not Qoheleth common in Catholic Bibles.

Other books use Protestant rather than Orthodox names so that 1SA & 2SA, 1 & 2 Samuel followed by 1KI & 2KI, 1 & 2 Kings, rather than 1, 2, 3 and 4 Kingdoms as in many Orthodox Bibles. Likewise Paratext uses 1CH & 2CH, 1 & 2 Chronicles, instead of 1 & 2 Paralipomenon. And EZR for Ezra instead of calling it 1 Esdras.

This is not necessarily a problem so long as it is clear in “Help” what the three letter code stands for. In some cases it is clearly ambiguous: for example the LXX project used the 1ES code for Ezra instead of EZR.

1.8.2.3 Deuterocanonical books use the KJV Apocrypha names

The names of the Catholic and Eastern Orthodox deuterocanonical books take their names from those names used in the Anglican KJV Apocrypha, e.g. Latin Esdras is called 2 Esdras the name used in the KJV Apocrypha, although it is “4 Esdras” in Catholic Bibles and “3 Esdras” in Russian and Georgian Orthodox Bibles.

1.8.2.4 Exceptions to naming conventions

However this naming policy has not been applied totally consistently since “ODA” for Odes which is taken from the Greek name and not the English.

Another exception is 4 Esdras, 5 Esdras & 6 Esdras which use the Latin names for books instead of the English or scholarly names (Ezra Apocalypse, 5 Ezra & 6 Ezra).

1.8.3 Current range of books

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



1.8.3.1 Current church traditions covered by Paratext

The book definitions within Paratext amply cover the Protestant, Catholic, and Eastern Orthodox (Greek Orthodox, Slavonic Orthodox, Georgian Orthodox) traditions, but do not account for additional books within the Oriental Orthodox traditions.

1.8.3.1 Oriental Orthodox traditions

Paratext is biased towards Western European Bible traditions. The Oriental Orthodox church traditions which are not covered by Paratext are:

- Syriac, (East and West)
- Coptic,
- Armenian (Eastern and Western)
- Ethiopian.

These actually account for ancient Bible traditions. These traditions have their own Old & New Testament and deuterocanonical traditions, and their additional books have not been covered by Paratext.

1.8.3.2 Current issues

Already in Ethiopia they have had to use XX* designations for books which are canonical in their Orthodox Old Testament; and in Armenian they have had to use XX* designations for books which are in an Appendix to one Bible. Syriac Old Testament books are going to be added soon.

1.8.4 Current Order of Books

1.8.4.1 Paratext order of books

The way that the books are ordered in Paratext falls into the following categories:

- **1-39: Genesis to Malachi**
Hebrew proto-canon Old Testament books in Western Protestant order
- **41-67: Matthew-Revelation**
New Testament books in Western Protestant order
- **68-79: Tobit to 2 Maccabees**
Roman Catholic Latin-rite Deuterocanonical books in Latin Vulgate order
- **80-93: 3 Maccabees to Psalm 151**
additional Eastern Orthodox Deuterocanonical books
- **104-107: 3 Esdras, 4 Esdras, 5 Esdras and 6 Esdras**
Latin Esdras books

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



Part 2: Recommended changes to the current Paratext codes

2.1 Summary of Septuagint Variant Books that need deleting

2.1.1 Septuagint Variants

Currently in Paratext books 88-93 can be removed completely. If we include every manuscript variant as a separate book Paratext could be overwhelmed. Instead the Septuagint should be 2 projects LXX “A” which includes the primary, usual version of a book, and LXX “B” which includes a secondary or variant version².

2.1.2 Theodotion version of Daniel

Theodotion translated the Hebrew Bible into Greek. Whether he was revising the Septuagint, or was working from Hebrew manuscripts that represented a parallel tradition that has not survived, is moot, but Theodotion's translation was so widely copied in the Early Church that it virtually superseded the LXX Book of Daniel. St Jerome in his preface to Daniel records the rejection of the Septuagint version in Christian usage, asserting that its translation was very faulty. The Theodotion versions of Daniel can be added the primary LXX “A” project³. In doing this books 88-93 become part of project LXX “B”, and are made redundant.

Paratext Number	Three letter abbreviation	Book name	manuscript	Paratext	Move to new project
88	JSA	Joshua “A”	Alexandrinus	JOS	LXX “B”
89	JDB	Judges “B”	Vaticanus	JDG	LXX “B”
90	TBS	Tobit “S”	Sinaiticus	TOB	LXX “B”
91	SST	Susannah Th	Theodotion	SUS	LXX “A”
92	DNT	Daniel Th	Theodotion	DAN	LXX “A”
93	BLT	Bel and the Dragon Th	Theodotion	BEL	LXX “A”

² Conversation with Reinier de Blois

³ Conversations with Reinier de Blois and Seppo

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



2.2. Removal of Duplicate Books from Paratext

2.2.1 Table of 1-6 Esdras book codes in Paratext

Paratext code	KJV name	Other names	Chapters	Scholarly name	Description
1ES	1 Esdras	2 Esdras in Russian	9	3 Ezra	Greek Ezra
2ES	2 Esdras	3 Esdras in Russian	16		Latin Esdras
3ES	?	?	?	-	?
4ES		4 Esdras	12	4 Ezra	Jewish Apocalypse of Ezra
5ES		3 or 5 Esdras	2	5 Ezra	2 chapter Latin Foreword
6ES		5 or 6 Esdras	2	6 Ezra	2 chapter Latin Conclusion

2.2.2 Third Esdras

The book 104 “3ES” was added in a misunderstanding that it was required in Russian Orthodox projects which have a book called “3 Esdras”⁴, but this is a Slavonic numbering of the 16 chapter book of Latin Esdras, which is in Paratext as “2ES”.

“3ES” is completely redundant due to a confusion of names for the books of Ezra/ Esdras. It needs to be removed lest projects use it.

Paratext Number	Three letter abbreviation	Book name	Chapters	description
104	3ES	3 Esdras	16	16 chapter Latin Esdras → this is duplication of 2ES

⁴ Conversation with Simon Crisp

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



2.3 Books in Paratext that need renaming

2.3.1 Rename ambiguous books

The following books are part of Paratext but need to be renamed due to ambiguity. I cannot find any projects in which the codes 4ES, 5ES and 6ES are actively used so changing these codes will not create problems for many (if any) projects.

2.3.2 Apocalypse of Ezra

The Apocalypse of Ezra is a 12 chapter Jewish book which in Latin was originally called “4 Esdras”. Later in the history of the Latin Vulgate a 2 chapter preface (sometimes called 3 Esdras and sometimes called 5 Esdras) and a 2 chapter ending (sometimes called 5 Esdras and sometimes called 6 Esdras) were added. This combined book was also known as “4 Esdras”, but was called 2 Esdras in the KJV and it is from this tradition that the Paratext code 2ES comes.

Using the name 4 Esdras is most unhelpful, when the book is simply the Ezra Apocalypse and it should be renamed EZA. This 12 chapter Apocalypse of Ezra is the older Biblical tradition than the 16 chapter book of Latin Esdras (with code 2ES in Paratext). The Society of Biblical Literature refer to the two Latin additions as 5 Ezra (being 3 Esdras / 5 Esdras / 5 ES) and 6 Ezra (being 5 Esdras / 6 Esdras / 6ES), and they should be renamed 5EZ and 6EZ.

2.3.3 Apocalypse of Ezra in Paratext

In the Ethiopian Bible the Apocalypse of Ezra is called “Ezra Shealtiel” and follows the book of Ezra and they therefore incorrectly used the code “2ES” in the Paratext project AMHLXX. In the Armenian Bible the Apocalypse of Ezra is called “3 Ezra” and follows the “Words of Sirach” in the Appendix to the Zohrab edition printed by the Armenian Bible Society, and in Paratext as ZRB.

For parallel mapping in Paratext EZA (4ES) needs to map onto 2ES chapters 3-14.

Paratext number	Paratext name	Proposed new name	Society of Biblical Literature standard name		Canonical tradition	Chapters	Name in different traditions	Paratext
86	ODA	ODE	Odes		Eastern	varies		
105	4ES	EZA	4 Ezra Ezra Apocalypse	OT	Armenian	12	Ezra Shealtiel	ZRB
					Syriac	12	Ezra Apocalypse	
					Ethiopian	13	3 Ezra	AMHLXX
106	5ES	5EZ	5 Ezra	OT	Latin	2	3 or 5 Esdras	
107	6ES	6EZ	6 Ezra	OT	Latin	2	5 or 6 Esdras	

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



Part 3: Additional Books required for Paratext

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Summary

This section of the paper looks at books to add to Paratext. I have analysed the books which need to be added for the following traditions. The order listed also reflects my opinion on the order of urgency.

- a book for Greek Daniel, for Catholic & Orthodox projects
- a second book of Psalms for Protestant, Catholic & Orthodox projects and critical texts
- 7 books required for Ethiopia
- 3 books required for Syriac
- 3 books required for Latin Vulgate
- 5 books required for Armenia
- 5 books required for New Testament codices.

Some books may fall into more than one category (e.g. the Epistle of Barnabas is found in NT codices and Latin manuscripts).

3.1.2 Scope of analysis

There are many books in ancient manuscripts and many apocryphal and pseudepigraphal books. I am limiting my analysis to books which are in the Old Testament, New Testament, Appendix, Deuterocanon or accompanying Apocrypha, in a:

- current printed Bible, of a Bible Society
- or part of a source language critical text project
- or part of a past printed Bible which may be reprinted.

That is to say I am analysing anything that has been added to Paratext that did not have a code available, or anything that is going to be or very likely to be added to Paratext soon. I have not predicted what might be added to Paratext beyond that. It is possible that there are some books that will need to be added but this paper covers all the ones we will need imminently. XXA-XXG can still cover one-off requirements.

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



3.2 Requirement for Greek Daniel

The LXX Greek version of Daniel is printed in full in many Catholic and Orthodox Bibles where the LXX is used to translate from. There are some current English projects (GNB and CEV) which will want to have Paratext books for Hebrew Daniel for the Protestant Bible, Greek Daniel for the Catholic Bible and the Daniel Additions for the Interconfessional Bible⁵.

3.2.1 Inconsistency with Esther

Paratext distinguishes between Hebrew Esther (EST) and Greek Esther (ESG), but it does not do the same from Daniel. In the past when Daniel was divided into sections and printed in deuterocanonical sections this was not a problem, but now that UBS allows Catholic and Orthodox Bibles which print the longer version of LXX Daniel we now have an inconsistency in the way we treat Esther and Daniel.

No	Proposed Paratext	Book name	Source language of manuscripts	Chapters	Bibles which include it
89	DAG	Greek Daniel Additions to Daniel	LXX Greek	14	Many Catholic & Orthodox Bibles

3.2.2 Greek Daniel in Paratext

In many UBS projects different Bible Societies have used different solutions to include Greek Daniel. Projects which use the longer LXX Daniel often use "DAN" for the longer Greek Daniel, for example the Latin Vulgate VUL*3 project, the Russian Orthodox RS094 project and the English Catholic Good News Bible project GNC. The lack of a Greek Daniel book has caused confusion and means that they lose the advantage of cross-project mapping.

3.2.3 Additions to Daniel

DAG could also be used for the LXX book of Daniel or for the one book "Additions to Daniel" as printed in some European Apocryphas, where it is not divided into BEL, S3Y and SUS. In the Maltese Bible project MB04 they used "DNT" for Additions to Daniel

3.2.4 New book: DAG

I recommend that DAG is used for Greek Daniel by analogy to ESG for Greek Esther, where the same principle is implemented. It could take the now vacant location 89.

⁵ Conversation with Polly Parrott, BFBS Production Services

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



3.3 Requirement for a second book of Psalms

Many projects have a requirement for an additional book of Psalms e.g.

- being an alternative book of Psalms from Greek or Hebrew,
- or a liturgical version (Catholic or Orthodox tradition)
- or a metrical version (Presbyterian tradition).

No	Proposed Paratext	Book name	Source language of manuscripts	Chapters	Bibles which include it
88	PSB	Psalms "B", Alternative, Liturgical or Metrical	Hebrew / LXX	150	VUL83 (XXA), GAEMP (PSA), Jerusalem Bible

3.3.1 Hebrew and LXX Psalms

The Vulgate (Paratext project VUL83) has two Psalters: the Gallicanum (in Paratext as PSA) as the primary version of Psalms, and the Hebrew: (in Paratext as XXA) as the secondary version.

3.3.2 Liturgical Psalms

The Jerusalem Bible in English two different translations of Psalms, one liturgical called the "Grail Psalms" and one as a translation in the Jerusalem style. Jerusalem Bible in English is now printed with the "Grail" Psalms instead of the original translation. For the Jerusalem project in Paratext we would like to hold 2 versions of Psalms⁶. Some Orthodox projects also have need for a liturgical Psalms.

3.3.3 Metrical Psalms

The Scots Gaelic Bible has Metrical Psalms as an appendix to the Bible, as does one Dutch Bible. In the Gaelic Bible the Metrical psalms were added as a separate project using PSA called GAEMP. If there were 2 versions of Psalms it could be in the same project. A new Gaelic translation is underway which requires both a translation of Psalms and Metrical Psalms⁷.

3.3.4 New book: PSB

I propose that PSA stands for Psalms "A", and the alternative book is Psalms "B" i.e PSB. PSB can then be used for the different projects that require an additional book of Psalms. It could take the now vacant location 88.

⁶ Conversations with Polly Parrott, BFBS Production Services

⁷ Conversation with Colin Hays, Scottish Bible Society

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



3.4 Summary of Additional Books required for Ethiopia

3.4.1 Ethiopian Orthodox Old Testament

The Ethiopian Orthodox Old Testament has 54 books. The Ethiopian Bible Society printed the Orthodox Bible in Amharic in 2008, and it has Paratext code AMHLXX. The table below lists these books. The first number refers to its numerical order.

1 Genesis	19 Apocalypse of Ezra	37 Baruch (5 chapters)
2 Exodus	20 2 Ezra (Greek Ezra)	38 Lamentations
3 Leviticus	21 Tobit	39 Rest of Jeremiah (Letter of Jeremiah)
4 Numbers	22 Judith	40 Rest of Baruch (4 Baruch)
5 Deuteronomy	23 Esther (Greek)	41 Ezekiel
6 Joshua	24 1 Meqabyan	42 Daniel (Greek)
7 Judges	25 2 Meqabyan	43 Hosea
8 Ruth	26 3 Meqabyan	44 Amos
9 1 Samuel	27 Job	45 Micah
10 2 Samuel	28 Psalms (151)	46 Joel
11 1 Kings	29 Proverbs (1-24)	47 Obadiah
12 2 Kings	30 Reproof ⁸	48 Jonah
13 1 Paralipomenon (1 Chronicles)	31 Wisdom	49 Nahum
14 2 Paralipomenon (2 Chronicles) ⁹	32 Ecclesiastes	50 Habakkuk
15 Jubilees	33 Song of Songs	51 Zephaniah
16 Enoch	34 Sirach	52 Haggai
17 (1) Ezra	35 Isaiah	53 Zechariah
18 Nehemiah	36 Jeremiah	54 Malachi

The books of Jubilees, Enoch, 1-3 Maqabyan, Reproof, Rest of Baruch and Daniel (Greek) are not yet defined in Paratext.

⁸ Reproof is equivalent of Proverbs 25-31

⁹ The Prayer of Manasseh follows 2 Chronicles 33:12

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



3.4.2 Books needed for Paratext

The Ethiopian Orthodox Bible was recently printed by the Ethiopian Bible Society in Amharic as project AMHLXX. They used XX books for defining books which are not in Paratext¹⁰, and used the codes 1MA, 2MA and 3MA for the books of Meqabyan. These will be needed for future Ethiopian projects and revisions, and also for the Bible concordance.

No	Proposed Paratext	Book name	Source language of manuscripts	Chapters	Paratext use
1	JUB	Jubilees	Hebrew Dead Sea Scrolls	34	AMHLXX (BEL)
2	ENO	Enoch	Hebrew Dead Sea Scrolls	42	AMHLXX (XXG)
3	REP	Reproof	Hebrew	6	AMHLXX (XXD)
4	1MQ	1 Meqabyan	Ge'ez	36	AMHLXX (1MA)
5	2MQ	2 Meqabyan	Ge'ez	20	AMHLXX (2MA)
6	3MQ	3 Meqabyan	Ge'ez	10	AMHLXX (3MA)
7	4BA	4 Baruch Paralipomenon of Jeremiah	Greek	6	AMHLXX (LJE)

3.4.3 Jubilees and Enoch

Jubilees and Enoch are ancient biblical books that are not in the Septuagint nor Vulgate tradition, but were known to Judaism and the early Church. They are used in the Ethiopian Jewish and Christian communities. Parts of them were found amongst the Dead Sea Scrolls. Jubilees was added to AMHLXX project using the code BEL and Enoch was added using the code XXG.

The book of Enoch is referred to and quoted directly by Jude in the New Testament. Jude writes in Jude verse 14: “And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these [men], saying” (KJV) and then quotes directly from the book of Enoch 1:9. “Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.”

3.4.4 Reproof

¹⁰ information from Kingsley Nettey

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



In Ethiopian the book of Proverbs is split into two books: Messale (also spelt Misalie) meaning Examples is Proverbs 1-24 . Reproof or in Amharic Tegsas (also spelt Tägsas or Täagsas), meaning Warnings. Reproof is the equivalent of Proverbs 25-31, but it is a separate book in the Ethiopian Bible numbered from chapter 1. The Bible Society of Ethiopia suggested code “REP”.

3.4.5 The Books of Meqabyan

The Ethiopian canon includes 3 books often incorrectly called 1, 2 & 3 “Maccabees”. These are quite different books to the books 1, 2 & 3 Maccabees in the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Bibles and are sometimes called “Ethiopic Maccabees” or “Pseudo-Maccabees”. They are transliterated from Amharic into English as Mekabis or Meqabyan. The first book is a Benjaminite called Meqabyan, or Mekabis and the second book is about a Moabite King by the same name.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Alternative name</i>	<i>Chapters</i>	<i>Suggested Paratext code</i>
1 Meqabyan/ Mekabis	Mekabis of Benjamin	36	1MQ
2 Meqabyan/ Mekabis	Mekabis of Moab	21	2MQ
3 Meqabyan/ Mekabis	--	10	3MQ

3.4.6 4 Baruch

The Ethiopian “Rest of the Words of Baruch” is called the Paralipomenon of Jeremiah in several ancient Greek manuscripts, when it is combined with the Letter of Jeremiah. In the Ethiopian Bible the Lamentations is followed by the “Rest of Jeremiah” (Letter of Jeremiah) and then the “Rest of the Words of Baruch” which is known to scholars as 4 Baruch. I recommend Paratext code 4BA.

3.4.7 Books for Ethiopia

The additional books for Ethiopia were needed about 1 year ago. The Bible Society has bodedged the Paratext system. Once these codes are added they can rename the books in their project. The Bible Society of Ethiopian would like to make a concordance, but I have said that I am not happy about facilitating that until the books are defined in Paratext.

These books should be added as a consecutive block of 7 books.

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



3.5 Summary of Additional Books required for Syriac Bibles

3.5.1 The Syriac Churches

The Syriac Church is divided between Eastern and Western Syriac traditions. The Western Syriac churches are served mainly by the Lebanese and Turkish Bible Societies. The Western Syriac churches are mainly in Syria, Turkey and the Lebanon. Eastern Syriac churches are mainly in Iraq, Iran. Both West and East Syriac churches are represented in India.

3.5.1.1 Liturgical Languages

The East and West Syriac manuscript tradition is the Syriac Peshitta, and the liturgical language is Syriac. In India the language of the Church is Malayalam.

3.5.1.2 The East Syriac (Nestorian) Churches

The Churches of the East Syriac tradition are

- (1) the Assyrian Church of the East, dating back to the Council of Ephesus AD 431
- (2) the Chaldean Catholic Church, an East Syriac rite Catholic Church created in 1553
- (3) the Ancient Church of the East, split in 1968.

3.5.1.3 The West Syriac (Jacobite) Churches

The Churches of the West Syriac tradition are the:

- (1) Syriac Orthodox Church, dating back to the Council of Chalcedon in AD 451
- (2) the Maronite Church, founded in AD 410
- (3) the Syriac Catholic Church, a West Syriac rite Catholic Church created in 1781

3.5.1.4 The Indian Churches

In India the Christian Churches claim apostolic succession from St Thomas (Mar Thoma) who came to Malankara (Kerala) India about AD 52.

In India the churches of the East Syriac tradition are the:

- (1) Indian Orthodox Church
- (2) Syro-Malabar Catholic Church, an East Syriac rite Catholic Church
- (3) (Malankara) Mar Thoma (Syrian) Church, a reformed Syriac (Anglican) Church

In India the churches of the West Syriac tradition are:

- (1) Malankara Syrian Orthodox Church
- (2) Syro-Malankara Catholic Church, a West Syriac rite Catholic Church

3.5.2 Table of proposed Syriac books for Paratext

No	Proposed Paratext	Book name	Source language of manuscripts	Chapters
1	2BA	2 Baruch (Apocalypse of Baruch)	Syriac	77
2	LBA	Letter of Baruch	Syriac	9
3	PS3	Syriac Psalms 152-155	Hebrew / Syriac	5

These books should be added as a consecutive block of 3 books for Syriac projects.

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



3.5.3 West Syriac Deuterocanon

The West Syriac UBS Bible has the Deuterocanonical Books as a separate section in the middle, except the order was different in the 1979 and 1987 editions. The deuterocanon of the UBS Syriac Bible of 1979 is based on the order in the “Lee” edition of 1823, though the 1987 order is based on the order of the Apocrypha in the “Mosul” edition of 1887-1892:

<i>West Syriac Deuterocanonical Books</i>		
	<i>1979 order</i>	<i>1987 order</i>
1	Wisdom of Solomon	Tobit
2	Sirach	Judith
3	Letter of Baruch	Esther Additions
4	1 Baruch	Wisdom of Solomon
5	2 Baruch	Sirach
6	Letter of Jeremiah	Letter of Jeremiah
7	1 Maccabees	Letter of Baruch
8	2 Maccabees	1 Baruch
9	Tobit	2 Baruch
10	Judith	Daniel Additions
11	Esther Additions	1 Maccabees
12	Daniel Additions	2 Maccabees

Baruch is called “1 Baruch” in the Syriac tradition.
Letter of Baruch and 2 Baruch are not currently in Paratext.

3.5.4 Letter of Baruch

The Syriac tradition also includes the 9 chapter Letter of Baruch. Sometimes this is attached to the end of 2 Baruch, like the Letter of Jeremiah is sometimes attached to 1 Baruch and sometimes separate. It needs to be treated in the same way as the Letter of Jeremiah is. The Letter of Baruch is printed in the deuterocanonical sections of UBS Syriac Bibles, following 2 Baruch.

→ I propose that the book is called LBA following the precedent of naming the Letter of Jeremiah LJE.

3.5.5 Apocalypse of Baruch

The Syriac tradition includes the 77 chapter Apocalypse of Baruch also known as 2 Baruch. It is printed in the deuterocanonical sections of UBS Syriac Bibles. In the Syriac tradition the book of Baruch is known as 1 Baruch.

→ I propose that the book is called 2BA for 2 Baruch following Syriac tradition.

3.5.6 Electronic Peshitta Text of the Institute of Leiden

Currently the Institute of Leiden in the Netherlands has a Peshitta project. Their Syriac New

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



Testament has been added to Paratext as project SYR, and the Old Testament will follow soon. The Institute of Leiden divided the books up into 5 categories¹¹:

1 Pentateuch	2 Historical Books	3 Prophets	4 Writings	5 Deuterocanonical books
Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy	Joshua Judges 1 Samuel 2 Samuel 1 Kings 2 Kings 1 Chronicles 2 Chronicles Ezra (1 Ezra) Nehemiah (2 Ezra)	Isaiah Jeremiah Ezekiel 12 Prophets Daniel (Greek)	Psalms Job Proverbs Ruth Songs Ecclesiastes Lamentations Esther	Judith Susanna Tobit Wisdom of Solomon Sirach Baruch Letter of Jeremiah Letter of Baruch (1 Baruch) Apocalypse of Baruch (2 Baruch) 1 Maccabees 2 Maccabees 3 Maccabees 4 Maccabees 3 Ezra (Greek Ezra) 4 Ezra (Ezra Apocalypse) Psalms 151-155 Odes (15 Syriac Odes) Prayer of Manasseh Psalms of Solomon

3.5.7 Psalms 152-155

The West Syriac tradition includes up to 155 Psalms. Psalms 152 to 155 are additional Psalms found in the Syriac Peshitta, in the Qumran scrolls: 11QPs(a)154,155. They are not in the East Syriac tradition.

Psalm	Attributed to	verses	
151	David	7	
152	Hezekiah	17	The Prayer of Hezekiah when enemies surrounded him
153		20	When the people obtained permission from Cyrus to return home
154	David	6	Spoken by David when he was contending with the lion and the wolf
155	David	6	Spoken by David when God, had delivered him from the lion and wolf.

Currently Psalm 151 is assigned to PS2 in Paratext projects
→ I suggest that PS3 is the code for Psalms 152-155 in the Syriac tradition.

3.6 Summary of Books required for Projects translated from the Vulgate

There are many Latin manuscripts and mediaeval Bible translations sometimes included books

¹¹ Information courtesy of Reinier de Blois

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



from those manuscripts. Even after the official Roman Catholic deuteroconon was established by the Council of Trent, some translations still included one or more of these books. They are not in defined Paratext.

3.6.1 Apocryphas to the Latin Vulgate

Clementine Latin Vulgate 1592

	Book	Notes	Existing Paratext code
1	3 Esdras ¹²	Greek Ezra	1ES
2	4 Esdras	Latin Esdras	2ES
3	Prayer of Manasseh		MAN

Stuttgart Sacra Bible Vulgata 1983¹³ Paratext project VUL83

	Book	Notes	Existing Paratext code	Proposed Paratext code
1	3 Esdras	Greek Ezra	1ES	
2	4 Esdras	Latin Esdras	2ES	
3	Prayer of Manasseh		MAN	
4	Psalms 151		PS2	
5	Letter to the Laodiceans ¹⁴			LAO

¹² Greek Ezra is numbered 3 Esdras to follow Hebrew Ezra (1 Esdras) and Nehemiah (2 Esdras)

¹³ Paratext code: VUL83, this is not an official Catholic Apocrypha but reflects texts in historic Latin manuscripts which are not in the official Catholic Deuteroconon.

¹⁴ Letter to the Laodiceans: this was translated into many vernacular Bibles, including John Wycliffe's English Bible, before the Catholic Church rejected it from the New Testament at the Council of Trent

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



3.6.2 Proposed new Vulgate books for Paratext

No	Proposed Paratext	Book name		Source language of manuscripts	Chapters	Paratext projects and Bibles which include it
1	PSO	Prayer of Solomon	OT	Latin Vulgate		Gutenberg
2	PJE	Prayer of Jeremiah	OT	Latin Vulgate	1	Wycliffe, Gutenberg, Figueiredo
3	LAO	Letter to the Laodiceans	NT	Latin Vulgate	1	VUL83 (XXB), Wycliffe

3.6.3 Prayer of Solomon

The Prayer of Solomon follows Sirach in the Latin Gutenberg Bible. It was in some mediaeval Latin manuscripts. A prayer by King Solomon described in 1 Kings 8:22-52, and some Latin Bibles contained a variant of this prayer at the end of Sirach (Ecclesiasticus). I recommend that it is called PSO for Prayer of Solomon by analogy to LJE for Letter of Jeremiah.

3.6.4 Prayer of Jeremiah

The Prayer of Jeremiah follows Lamentations in the English language mediaeval John Wycliffe Bible, and also in the Latin Gutenberg Bible. The Prayer of Jeremiah follows Lamentations in the Portuguese Figueiredo Bible printed by BFBS in Portugal from 1821 until the 1960s¹⁵. I recommend that it is called PJE for Prayer of Jeremiah by analogy to LJE for Letter of Jeremiah.

3.6.5 Letter to the Laodiceans

Mediaeval editions of the Vulgate included the Letter to the Laodiceans, and it is in the Stuttgart critical edition of the Vulgate, and in Paratext project VUL83 as XXB. It was part of many mediaeval Bibles. It is included in John Wycliffe's English Bible, where it follows the Book of Revelation. I recommend it is called LAO.

3.6.6 Required for reprints

It is possible that BFBS might do a reprint of the Wycliffe Bible at some stage, and the books Prayer of Jeremiah and the Letter to the Laodiceans will be required¹⁶. Likewise if the Gutenberg or Figueiredo Bibles or other Bibles which include them, were to be reprinted.

¹⁵ Conversation with Timoteo Cavaco, General Secretary of the Portuguese Bible Society

¹⁶ conversation with Derek Hill, BFBS Production Services

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



3.7 Summary of Additional Books required for Armenia

3.7.1 Eastern and Western Armenian

Today the Armenian Apostolic Church has about 7 million adherents in two distinct branches.

In the West is the Armenian Apostolic (Holy See of Cilicia) Church, led since 1995 by His Holiness Aram I in Antelias, Lebanon.

In the East is the Armenian Apostolic (Holy See of Etchmiadzin) Church, led by His Holiness Karekin II in Armenia, who is also Patron of the Bible Society of Armenia. He is called the “Catholicos of All Armenians”.

The Armenian Bible Society produces Bibles in Classical Armenian and Eastern Armenian. The Lebanese and Turkish Bible Societies produce Bibles in Western Armenian. Eastern and Western Armenian have slightly different orthographies.

3.7.2 Zohrab Bible Appendix

The Armenian Zohrab Bible is Paratext project ZRB, printed by the Armenian Bible Society. It is a reprint of an 1805 critical edition of Armenian manuscripts and includes an Appendix with 4 deuterocanonical Old Testament books and 4 deuterocanonical New Testament books. Five of these books are new to Paratext. They are only currently need for the ZRB project, and not for other Armenian projects.

In the Appendix to the Zohrab Bible are 8 books¹⁷. This Appendix is like an Apocrypha for the whole Bible:

- 1 Sirach (Ecclesiasticus)
- 2 Words of Sirach
- 3 3 Ezra (Apocalypse of Ezra)
- 4 Prayer of Manasseh
- 5 the Epistle of the Corinthians to Paul,
- 6 Paul's 3rd Epistle to the Corinthians (i.e. 3 Corinthians),
- 7 the Prayer of Euthalius
- 8 the Dormition of St John the Evangelist



Zohrab Bible 1805

3.7.3 The Words of Sirach

The *Words of Sirach* is a separate book which is not divided into chapters and verses. This is not to be confused with the Prologue to Sirach. The *Words of Sirach* starts with the following sentence: “The obedient mind and abstinence are glory to a man...” The author goes on writing about what awaits the greedy and the proud, the wicked and the sinful and also those who have virtues.¹⁸ It is not defined in Paratext.

→ I suggest that we call it WSI.

¹⁷ e-mail from Hasmik Muradyan, Bible Society of Armenia 10th August 2007

¹⁸ e-mail from Hasmik Muradyan, Bible Society of Armenia 10th August 2007

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



3.7.4 Corinthian Letters

In old Armenian manuscripts the *Epistle of the Corinthians to Paul* and *3 Corinthians* usually appear after 2 Corinthians and before Galatians¹⁹, with 3 Corinthians being printed as Paul's response to the letter to him from the Corinthians. 3 Corinthians is attached to Corinthians to Paul; the opening verse of 3 Corinthians is just marked by a paragraph, but in Paratext they were stored as separate books of one chapter each. Both start with verse 1. Corinthians to Paul is one chapter of 19 verses, and 3 Corinthians is one chapter of 60 verses. Historically it has been shown that these epistles were taken from the apocryphal "*Acts of Paul*".

3.7.5 Prayer of Euthalius

The *Prayer of Euthalius*; also called the *Supplication of Euthalius* or the *Plea of Euthalius* appears in some editions of the Armenian Bible. The *Prayer (Plea/Supplication) of Euthalius* appears after Jude in the Armenian Bible versions of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. In the Zohrab Bible it is an unversed one chapter book in the second half of the Appendix. The plea says: "Don't be arrogant in your glory and don't be stingy in your misery". The author turns to his own grieving self, calling for patience.

3.7.6 Dormition of St John

The *Dormition of John* is also called the *Repose of St John*. It is the story of John's death at an old age, which is replete with legends in the Orthodox tradition. The book appears after the Revelation of St John in old Armenian Bible editions that include it. It starts with St John telling about signs, grace, services and teachings by him through God. He goes on glorifying, giving thanks to God and the book ends with his dormition. The book has no chapter or verse divisions.

3.7.7 Armenian Books for Paratext

These are the books for Armenian that were added in using XX codes, but they may be needed for further Armenian projects and revisions. These books should be added as a consecutive block of 5 books:

No	Proposed Paratext	Book name	DC Section	Source language of manuscripts	Chapters	Paratext use
1	WSI	Words of Sirach	OT	Armenian	1	ZRB (SIR)
2	COP	Letter of the Corinthians to Paul	NT	Armenian	1	ZRB (XXB)
3	3CO	3 Corinthians	NT	Armenian	1, 19 verses	ZRB (XXB)
4	EUT	Prayer of Euthalius	NT	Armenian	1, 60 verses	ZRB (XXC)
5	DOJ	Dormition of John	NT	Armenian	1	ZRB (XXA)

¹⁹ The Bible in the Armenian Tradition by Vrej Nersessian, Appendix 2 page 82

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



3.8 Summary of Additional Books from New Testament Codices

In Paratext we have the code PSS for the Psalms of Solomon which is in some Greek Old Testament codices but not in any modern translation. By the same token there are books in New Testament codices that are not in any modern translation which at some stage may be added to Paratext. They are not needed now but some of these are part of Ethiopian, Coptic or Latin manuscripts.

No	Proposed Paratext	Book name	Source language of manuscripts	Chapters	codices
1	1CL	1 Clement	Greek	65	Alexandrinus, Hierosolymitanus
2	2CL	2 Clement	Greek	20	Alexandrinus, Hierosolymitanus
3	SHE	Shepherd of Hermas	Greek		Codex Siniaticus
4	LBA	Letter (Epistle) of Barnabas	Greek, Latin	21	Sinaiticus, Hierosolymitanus
5	DID	Didache	Greek	16	Codex Hierosolymitanus

3.8.1 Epistles of Clement

1 Clement, 2 Clement, the Shepherd of Hermas and the Letter of Barnabas are in the Codex Alexandrinus. 1st Clement is one of the oldest Christian documents outside the main New Testament canon, written at the end of the 1st century AD. The epistle was written for the church in Corinth. In the early centuries many of the eastern churches accepted the 1st Epistle of Clement as canonical scripture. They are not in any current New Testament traditions, although historically 1 Clement was part of the Coptic New Testament and the wider Ethiopian New Testament writings known as the "broad canon", and so may be used in future Orthodox projects.

3.8.2 Letter of Barnabas

The Letter of Barnabas follows the Letter of James in some Latin manuscripts.

3.8.3 Coptic Projects

The Egyptian Bible Society is starting to work with Coptic and is currently producing a Coptic New Testament²⁰, and Coptic work may increase. 1 & 2 Clement were part of the historic Coptic New Testament and therefore in the future these books may be required.

3.8.4 Codices in Paratext

If Codex Alexandrinus were to be entered into Paratext we would want these 4 books. If these books are added to Paratext I recommend that they are added as a consecutive block of 4 books.

3.9 Conclusions

²⁰ Conversation with Hala Abib, Egyptian Bible Society, April 2008

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



3.9.1 Deuterocanonical Books

There is no one definition of deuterocanonical books. Some books are widely regarded as spurious (e.g. the Letter to the Laodiceans) which nonetheless appear in some traditions, whilst other books have a genuine heritage and were found in the Dead Sea Scrolls and are quoted by the New Testament (e.g. Enoch). This paper does not try to judge the validity of books theologically, but analyses which books are required for projects in Paratext, currently or in the near future usage.

3.9.2 Codes should be used to reflect book content not book names

The Help in Paratext needs to emphasise that the three letter code names reflect the names of the books in the English KJV tradition. However in choosing the correct Paratext code it is important to stress in Paratext Help the need to select the one which reflects the correct contents of the books, not the name of the book.

3.9.3 Glossing Problems

Using the wrong code means that there is a problem for the glossing tool because it does not gloss from the right book to the equivalent book. This therefore implies a problem for Concordance Builder and InterlinearTool which employ the Glossing Tool. So as these additional tools are used it is more important that the correct Bible book code is used, and that a code exists for every book that might employ the glossing technology.

3.9.4 Blocks of Books by Tradition

When additional books are added they should be added in their blocks (e.g. Armenian, Ethiopian, Syriac) so that the relevant Bible Society finds their books together, and there is less chance of not finding the relevant code as sometimes happens now.

3.9.5 Paratext development

This report covers as many current and upcoming UBS projects as I could find, and tries to predict books needed by Paratext in the short term, it does not claim to be 100% comprehensive. There may be some more books lurking in old manuscripts (such as 3 Baruch in Greek, Testaments of the Patriarchs in Armenian, 2 Enoch in Old Church Slavonic, 5 Maccabees in Syriac) that might be required if codices are added to Paratext or manuscripts are reprinted. Unless I am aware of an immediate or near future requirement for them I have ignored these.

We will still want to be able to define books to cover the inevitable one offs, so the XXA, XXB etc books may not become redundant. As Paratext evolves I cannot predict what it will be used for. It may grow to be used for other projects such as Early Church Fathers, and Dead Sea Scrolls Targumim and we may want to allow users to self-define some books for their own projects²¹.

The issue of “books” defined for Paratext may have to be revisited from time to time.

Part 4 Other changes to Paratext

4.1 Help

²¹ Conversation with Jon Riding, BFBS, May 2008

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



4.1.1 Help in Paratext

The Help in Paratext for the three letter abbreviations is poor. It just lists the English Protestant book name and the three letter abbreviation associated with it. In some cases this is ambiguous and I think that the Paratext Help should have more information. Where books have alternative names in the Catholic or Orthodox tradition this should be listed in Paratext. For other abbreviations for additional materials e.g. CNC, GLO there is not Help at all.

4.1.2 Additional help for OT & NT three letter abbreviations

I recommend that the following books should have Help extended to give this additional information:

TLA	Current details in Paratext Help	Additional notes required for Help
GEN	Genesis	1 Moses in some Bibles
EXO	Exodus	2 Moses in some Bibles
LEV	Leviticus	3 Moses in some Bibles
NUM	Numbers	4 Moses in some Bibles
DEU	Deuteronomy	5 Moses in some Bibles
1SA	1 Samuel	1 Kings or Kingdoms in some Bibles
2SA	2 Samuel	2 Kings or Kingdoms in some Bibles
1KI	1 Kings	3 Kings or Kingdoms in some Bibles
2KI	2 Kings	4 Kings or Kingdoms in some Bibles
1CH	1 Chronicles	1 Paralipomenon in Orthodox Bibles
2CH	2 Chronicles	2 Paralipomenon in Orthodox Bibles
EZR	Ezra	This is for Hebrew Ezra Also for Ezra-Nehemiah when one book
EST	Esther	This is for Hebrew Esther, → for the longer Greek LXX Esther use ESG
ECC	Ecclesiastes	Qoholeth in Catholic Bibles, → for Ecclesiasticus use SIR
SNG	Song of Solomon	Canticles in Catholic Bibles
DAN	Daniel	This is for Hebrew Daniel, → for the longer Greek LXX Daniel use DAG
REV	Revelation	Apocalypse in Catholic Bibles

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



4.1.2 Additional help for Deuterocanonical three letter abbreviations

I recommend that the following books should have Help extended to give this additional information:

No	TLA	Current details in Paratext Help	Additional notes required for Help
	SIR	Sirach	Ecclesiasticus in some Bibles
	BAR	Baruch	1 Baruch in Syriac Bibles
	1ES	1 Esdras	The 9 chapter book of Greek Ezra in the LXX
	2ES	2 Esdras	The 16 chapter book of Latin Esdras, → for the 12 chapter Apocalypse of Ezra use 4ES (EZA)
	3ES	3 Esdras	This is redundant, do not use
	4ES	4 Esdras	The 12 chapter book of Ezra Apocalypse
	5ES	5 Esdras	5 Ezra: The 2 chapter, Latin preface to Latin Esdras
	6ES	6 Esdras	6 Ezra: The 2 chapter, Latin conclusion to Latin Esdras

4.1.3 XXA-XXG Books

Currently the Help for XXA-XXG books is as follows:

“At the request of previous Paratext users a set of non-biblical books have been added to this version. The XXA to XXG books appear at the end of the list of books and may be used for any kind of additional material desired, e.g., glossary, concordance, etc. Standard Format Markers for these books need to be added to the stylesheet you are using.”

If we have separate three letter codes for glossary (GLO) and concordance (CNC) which we would prefer Paratext users to implement then I feel that this Help is misleading. It should say that XXA-XXG books are for additional material where no Paratext definition already exists, or to create a second instance of a book e.g. to make a second concordance when the code CNC has already been used.

4.1.4 Help for Additional Books

I recommend that the following three letter codes should have at least some Help to explain what they are. At the moment as far as I can tell there is none.

No	TLA	Current details in Paratext Help	Additional notes required for Help
	FRT	Nothing	Front Matter
	BAK	Nothing	Back Matter
	OTH	Nothing	Other
	INT	Nothing	Introduction
	CNC	Nothing	Concordance
	GLO	Nothing	Glossary
	TDX	Nothing	Thematic Index
	NDX	Nothing	Names Index

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



4.2 Book Orders

Paratext currently follows the English-speaking Protestant book order for the Old and New Testaments, and Vulgate order for the Catholic deuterocanonical books. In reality there is no “standard” book order used in Christendom by all church traditions or used by all Bible Societies. -
→ Paratext should not assume any particular book order.

4.2.1 Tanakh/ Protestant OT Book Orders

Even Jewish orders of the Tanakh vary. In the Stuttgart Hebrew Bible Job is before Proverbs but in the Letteris Hebrew Bible Proverbs is before Job. The Christian Old Testament does not usually follow the Tanakh order but some editions of the Christian Bible do e.g. the French TEB. The Bible used in European Protestant tradition is the Hebrew books of the Tanakh in the order of the LXX and Latin Vulgate. A different Old Testament order is used in the Syriac and Ethiopian traditions.

	Hebrew Stuttgart	Hebrew Letteris	Modern Jewish	European Protestant	Ethiopian Protestant
1	Genesis	Genesis	Genesis	Genesis	Genesis
2	Exodus	Exodus	Exodus	Exodus	Exodus
3	Leviticus	Leviticus	Leviticus	Leviticus	Leviticus
4	Numbers	Numbers	Numbers	Numbers	Numbers
5	Deuteronomy	Deuteronomy	Deuteronomy	Deuteronomy	Deuteronomy
6	Joshua	Joshua	Joshua	Joshua	Joshua
7	Judges	Judges	Judges	Judges	Judges
8	Samuel	Samuel	1 Samuel	Ruth	Ruth
9	Kings	Kings	2 Samuel	1 Samuel	1 Samuel
10	Isaiah	Isaiah	1 Kings	2 Samuel	2 Samuel
11	Jeremiah	Jeremiah	2 Kings	1 Kings	1 Kings
12	Ezekiel	Ezekiel	Isaiah	2 Kings	2 Kings
13	12 Prophets	12 Prophets	Jeremiah	1 Chronicles	1 Chronicles
14	Psalms	Psalms	Ezekiel	2 Chronicles	2 Chronicles
15	Job	Proverbs	Hosea	Ezra	Ezra
16	Proverbs	Job	Joel	Nehemiah	Nehemiah
17	Song of Songs	Song of Songs	Amos	Esther	Esther
18	Ruth	Ruth	Obadiah	Job	Job
19	Lamentations	Lamentations	Jonah	Psalms	Psalms
20	Ecclesiastes	Ecclesiastes	Micah	Proverbs	Proverbs
21	Esther	Esther	Nahum	Ecclesiastes	Ecclesiastes
22	Daniel	Daniel	Habakkuk	Song of Songs	Song of Songs
23	Ezra-Nehemiah	Ezra-Nehemiah	Zephaniah	Isaiah	Isaiah
24	Chronicles	Chronicles	Haggai	Jeremiah	Jeremiah
25			Zechariah	Lamentations	Lamentations
26			Malachi	Ezekiel	Ezekiel
27			Psalms	Daniel	Daniel
28			Proverbs	Hosea	Hosea
29			Job	Joel	Amos
30			Song of Songs	Amos	Micah
31			Ruth	Obadiah	Joel
32			Lamentations	Jonah	Obadiah
33			Ecclesiastes	Micah	Jonah
34			Esther	Nahum	Nahum
35			Daniel	Habakkuk	Habakkuk
36			Ezra-	Zephaniah	Zephaniah
37			1 Chronicles	Haggai	Haggai
38			2 Chronicles	Zechariah	Zechariah
39				Malachi	Malachi

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



4.2.2 Catholic Old Testament Book Orders

	LXX order ²²	Vulgate ²³
1	Genesis	Genesis
2	Exodus	Exodus
3	Leviticus	Leviticus
4	Numbers	Numbers
5	Deuteronomy	Deuteronomy
6	Joshua	Joshua
7	Judges	Judges
8	Ruth	Ruth
9	1 Samuel	1 Samuel
10	2 Samuel	2 Samuel
11	1 Kings	1 Kings
12	2 Kings	2 Kings
13	1 Chronicles	1 Chronicles
14	2 Chronicles	2 Chronicles
15	Ezra	Ezra
16	Nehemiah	Nehemiah
17	Tobit	Tobit
18	Judith	Judith
19	Esther	Esther
20	1 Maccabees	Job
21	2 Maccabees	Psalms
22	Job	Proverbs
23	Psalms	Qoholeth
24	Proverbs	Song of Songs
25	Qoholeth	Wisdom
26	Song of Songs	Sirach
27	Wisdom	Isaiah
28	Sirach	Jeremiah
29	Isaiah	Lamentations
30	Jeremiah	Baruch
31	Lamentations	Ezekiel
32	Baruch	Daniel
33	Ezekiel	Hosea
34	Daniel	Joel
35	Hosea	Amos
36	Joel	Obadiah
37	Amos	Jonah
38	Obadiah	Micah
39	Jonah	Nahum
40	Micah	Habakkuk
41	Nahum	Zepheniah
42	Habakkuk	Haggai
43	Zepheniah	Zechariah
44	Haggai	Malachi
45	Zechariah	1 Maccabees
46	Malachi	2 Maccabees

²² New Jerusalem Bible, GNB Catholic Edition and NRSV Catholic Edition, Spanish Version Popular Catholic Edition

²³ Latin Vulgate order used by Douay-Rheims Bible, RSV Catholic Edition

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



4.2.3 New Testament Book Orders

	<i>Greek/ Latin</i> ²⁴	<i>Gutenberg</i> ²⁵	<i>Syriac</i> ²⁶	<i>Slavonic</i> ²⁷	<i>Armenian</i> ²⁸	<i>Lutheran</i> ²⁹	<i>Ethiopian</i> ³⁰
1	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew
2	Mark	Mark	Mark	Mark	Mark	Mark	Mark
3	Luke	Luke	Luke	Luke	Luke	Luke	Luke
4	John	John	John	John	John	John	John
5	Acts	Romans	Acts	Acts	Acts	Acts	Acts
6	Romans	1 Corinth	James	James	James	Romans	Romans
7	1 Corinth	2 Corinth	1 Peter	1 Peter	1 Peter	1 Corinth	1 Corinth
8	2 Corinth	Galatians	1 John	2 Peter	2 Peter	2 Corinth	2 Corinth
9	Galatians	Ephesians	Romans	1 John	1 John	Galatians	Galatians
10	Ephesians	Philippians	1 Corinth	2 John	2 John	Ephesians	Ephesians
11	Philippians	Colossians	2 Corinth	3 John	3 John	Philippians	Philippians
12	Colossians	1 Thess	Galatians	Jude	Jude	Colossians	Colossians
13	1 Thess	2 Thess	Ephesians	Romans	Romans	1 Thess	1 Thess
14	2 Thess	1 Timothy	Philippians	1 Corinth	1 Corinth	2 Thess	2 Thess
15	1 Timothy	2 Timothy	Colossians	2 Corinth	2 Corinth	1 Timothy	1 Timothy
16	2 Timothy	Titus	1 Thess	Galatians	Galatians	2 Timothy	2 Timothy
17	Titus	Philemon	2 Thess	Ephesians	Ephesians	Titus	Titus
18	Philemon	Hebrews	1 Timothy	Philippians	Philippians	Philemon	Philemon
19	Hebrews	Acts	2 Timothy	Colossians	Colossians	1 Peter	Hebrews
20	James	James	Titus	1 Thess	1 Thess	2 Peter	1 Peter
21	1 Peter	1 Peter	Philemon	2 Thess	2 Thess	1 John	2 Peter
22	2 Peter	2 Peter	Hebrews	1 Timothy	Hebrews	2 John	1 John
23	1 John	1 John	2 Peter	2 Timothy	1 Timothy	3 John	2 John
24	2 John	2 John	2 John	Titus	2 Timothy	Hebrews	3 John
25	3 John	3 John	3 John	Philemon	Titus	James	James
26	Jude	Jude	Jude	Hebrews	Philemon	Jude	Jude
27	Revelation	Revelation	Revelation	Revelation	Revelation	Revelation	Revelation
28	(Laodiceans) ³¹						

²⁴ NT order as used by the Greek Orthodox Church, Catholic Church, and English-speaking Protestant churches.

²⁵ The Gutenberg Bible printed in Latin included Acts after Hebrews in line with some Latin manuscripts

²⁶ The NT order of the Syriac Orthodox Church as printed by the United Bible Societies 1919-2003. The books 2 Peter, 2 John, 3 John, Jude and Revelation are at the end because they are “deuterocanonical” in the Syriac tradition.

²⁷ NT order used in Russian by the Orthodox and Protestant Bibles, and in Bulgaria as printed by those Bible Societies.

²⁸ NT order printed with the 1805 Zohrab Bible as reprinted by the Bible Society of Armenia in Classical Armenian.

²⁹ Lutheran (Protestant) NT order as printed with editions of the Luther Bible, as printed by the German Bible Society.

³⁰ NT order as used by the Ethiopian Orthodox and Ethiopian Protestant Bibles, printed by the Bible Society of Ethiopia.

³¹ Some Latin manuscripts and translations, e.g. Wycliffe’s Bible, included the Letter to the Laodiceans after Revelation. It is in the Paratext VUL83 project.

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



4.2.4 Paratext drop-down book list

The Paratext drop-down list follows the order of the Paratext book numbers, even though it may not reflect the order of the books as printed in the Bible. For example Catholic Bibles often intermingle the Catholic Deuterocanonical books in the Old Testament and do not print them separately. Paratext currently cannot reflect this.

It would be good to have an option in Paratext to set the book order. There are some standard orders which could be pre-set e.g. Western Protestant order, Russian order, Ethiopian order, Catholic Vulgate order, Catholic Septuagint order, Lutheran New Testament order, but we will also need to allow the user to define their own order, especially for deuterocanonical sections of Bibles.

4.2.5 Book order for Concordances

When we print concordances we want to print the verses in the canonical book order of the printed Bible that the concordance goes with. Currently this is set in ConcordanceBuilder simply because Paratext does not do it. I think it should be part of the project information in Paratext.

4.2.6 Book order for PublishingAssistant

With PublishingAssistant able to print Bibles, we ought to somewhere be able to set the order of the books.

4.2.7 Book Ordering in Paratext

There are different Jewish book orders, different Protestant book orders and different Catholic book orders. There is no “standard” book order. We need to ensure that Paratext is flexible enough to cope with different book orders, and allow a user-defined order.

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



4.3 Abbreviations in Paratext

4.3.1 \toc markers

In Paratext the book names are defined in the Table of Contents \toc markers. There are three layers of these:

- \toc1, full book name e.g. The Gospel of St Matthew
- \toc2, the usual short name of the book e.g. Matthew
- \toc3, the abbreviation of the book, e.g. Mt

4.3.2 Abbreviations in Bibles

In most Bibles abbreviations are required for at least one of the following purposes:

- footnotes
- cross-references
- concordances

4.3.3 Inconsistencies in current projects

In some Bibles different abbreviations are used within the same printed edition. This looks unprofessional but it happens e.g. the English Standard Version printed by BFBS has different abbreviations for footnotes and another set for concordances. The NIV Study Bible has some abbreviations which differ in the footnotes and the cross-references, even sometimes on the same page. When different abbreviations are used it is an issue to know which one to give to the \toc3 marker.

→ I would like to see something in the Paratext checks which verifies that the abbreviations in the project are unique for each book and unambiguous.

4.3.4 Abbreviations in concordances

Abbreviations are very important for concordances where an abbreviated book name is used in references to verses e.g. 2 Co 4:12. The ConcordanceBuilder program identifies the abbreviation for a book by reading the \toc3 line in each file of a project. Unfortunately not every project sets the \toc3 marker, and with every concordance project I have to check if they exist.

4.3.4 Ambiguous abbreviations

It happens sometimes that an abbreviation in a Bible is ambiguous. In the ABS GNT project “Ez” was an abbreviation for “Ezekiel” even though it might easily be read by the reader to be “Ezra”; and “Nh” was an abbreviation for “Nahum” even though it might easily be read by the reader to be “Nehemiah”. In English Bibles “Phil” is often used to shorten Philipians even though it could equally be an abbreviation for “Philemon”. “Jud” is sometimes used to abbreviate “Jude” even though it could equally be read as an abbreviation for “Judges” or even the deuterocanonical book “Judith”.

I have found many cases of ambiguity but I read nothing in Paratext Help for helping to ascribe abbreviations to book names.

4.3.5 Paratext Checks for abbreviations

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



4.3.5.1 Check for an abbreviation

I would like a standard check in Paratext that every file has a \toc3 marker and that an abbreviation is associated with it. It is not just enough to check for a \toc3 marker. I had one project where some files had \toc3 markers but there was no abbreviation after the marker in some files. We also need to check that the \toc3 marker has an abbreviation.

4.3.5.2 Check for uniqueness

They also need to be all unique. I had one project where Habakkuk and Hebrews were given the same abbreviation “Hb”. This would lead to ambiguity, so we also need a check that every \toc3 abbreviation is unique.

4.3.5.3 Check for unambiguous abbreviations

I would like to have a Paratext check that checks for ambiguous abbreviations. This could be done by seeing if the sequence of letters of the abbreviation (\toc3) is found in more than one book name (\toc2) e.g. “Ez” is found in “Ezra” and “Ezekiel” and is therefore ambiguous.

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



5 Bibliography

5.1 General

UBS Monograph Series, No 6: The Apocrypha in Ecumenical Perspective, Siegfried Meurer, editor, translated by Paul Ellingworth, United Bible Societies 1991

The Apocryphal Books by Prof H.T.Andrews, Century Bible Handbooks, London 1906, especially chapter VIII and IX Apocalyptic Literature

An Introduction to the Study of the New Testament by A H McNeile - first published at the University Press, Oxford 1927. 2nd Edition

Back issues of The Bible Translator (TBT)

5.2 Ethiopia

TBT Edition 7: April 1956 – “The Revision of the Amharic New Testament” pages 72-77

TBT Edition 28: Jan 1977 - “The First Amharic Bible” pages 154-155

TBT Edition 44: Jan 1993 – “The Bible and its canon in the Ethiopian Orthodox Church” p 111-123

The Ethiopian Orthodox Church, Addis Ababa 1970, Chapter 7, “Bible and the Liturgical Books” pages 77-79

The Ethiopians – An Introduction to the Country and People by Edward Ullendorff, London 1973

Ethiopia and the Bible by Edward Ullendorff, The Schweich Lectures published for the British Academy by the Oxford University Press 1967

Translating the Bible: The Ethiopian Version of the Old Testament by Michael A. Knibb, The Schweich Lectures published for the British Academy 1995

The Church of Ethiopia, A Panorama of History and Spiritual Life, Addis Ababa – September 1997
A publication of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, especially Chapter X – The Role of Ethiopian Orthodox Church in Literature and Art, pages 73-75

5.3 Armenia

The Bible in the Armenian Tradition by Vrej Nersessian, published 2001 by the British Library

Some Remarks on the Bible in Modern Armenia by A.A. Bedikian
The Bible Translator Issue 2 April 1957, pages 75-79

The Bible in the Armenian Church by Vazken Movsesian,
First edition: October 1980, Second edition: October 1984, Third edition: April 1993 Published by St. Andrew Armenian Church, 11370 S. Stelling Road, Cupertino, CA 95014, U.S.A.

Analysis of canonical issues in Paratext



6 Acknowledgements

Helen Barker, UBS
Reinier de Blois, UBS
Simon Crisp, UBS

Polly Parrott, BFBS Production Services
Derek Hill, BFBS Production Services
Liz Martin, BFBS
Jon Riding, BFBS

Timoteo Cavaco, General Secretary, Portuguese Bible Society
Haile-Eyesus Engdashet, Translation Consultant for the Bible Society of Ethiopia.
Hasmik Mouradian, Administrative Assistant at the the Bible Society of Armenia
Behnan Konutgan, Project Coordinator at the Bible Society in Turkey
Lénart de Regt, UBS Translation Consultant to the Middle East

Bible Society of Ethiopia
Armenian Bible Society
Egyptian Bible Society
Portuguese Bible Society

1st June 2008

Neil Rees (Studge)
Linguistic Computing
British & Foreign Bible Society